

finger on the trigger. Therefore the trigger is substantially immediately below a user's thumb placed on a rear side of the spool "p".

[0020] Many conventional triggers are designed based on this preconception, so that the shape, size, and protruding direction are substantially the same as the above-mentioned trigger "f".

[0021] As a result, if the fishing rod is gripped without a user bending a wrist or an elbow in an unnatural position, as seen in Fig. 11(B), the three fingers from the middle finger to the fourth finger, particularly the third finger and the fourth finger, generates a space "s", distant from the bottom of the body "b" and the handle "o". Therefore, the body "b" cannot be firmly gripped by all the user's fingers. In this case, the user's thumb is basically used to operate the reel and can hardly grip the fishing rod. Therefore, only the user's index finger and the middle finger can be actually used to firmly grip the fishing rod. In this state, the gripping force is not sufficient, so the fishing rod "r" can be unstable in the user's hand. The swinging force of the fishing rod "r" is also diminished. Therefore, the casting direction is not precise, and the maximum distance is diminished.

[0022] This is also true in the case of palming. As shown in solid lines in Fig. 13, if the fishing rod is gripped during palming without the user bending the wrist to an unnatural position, the third finger and the fourth finger are separated from the bottom of the body "b" and the handle "o", so a space "s" is generated.

[0023] Therefore, many users try to bend their elbows and wrists to an unnatural position in order to firmly grip the handle "o" and the body "b" with all their fingers even during casting and palming. That is, during palming, as shown by a user's arm by a 2-dotted chain line of Fig. 13, the fishing rod "r" is held by a user's wrist bent at approximately 90°. During casting, as shown in Fig. 12, a user grips a fishing rod by turning the fishing rod toward the inside from a shoulder to an elbow and by bending a wrist at approximately 90° toward the outside.

[0024] However, gripping in this manner creates a significant burden to a user's elbow and a wrist. As a result, casting is performed improperly, and operation mistakes such as mistiming of hooking occur. In particular, during boat fishing, when a fishing rod drops down to the water, in order to easily support a fishing rod, palming

may be performed for many hours. In this case the end of the handle "o" is sandwiched under the user's arm (see Fig. 13), so bending of the wrist is significant.

[0025] Furthermore, as described above, a conventional trigger "f" is immediately below the tip of the user's thumb placed on the reel "c". Therefore, if palming is performed in a natural manner, the user's fourth finger cannot be brought in front of the trigger "f". As a result, the trigger "f" must be sandwiched between the user's middle finger and the fourth finger or the middle finger and the third finger. Normally, during palming, the fishing rod is held for many hours until a fish is caught, so a user may have significant pain in the third finger and the fourth finger.

[0026] Additionally, only one of the user's fingers can be placed on a conventional trigger "f". Gripping needs to be performed with enough force to stably support the position of a fishing rod in an axial direction. That is, in this type of fishing rod, various actions can be taken in a position such that the reel, which is a heavy member, is on the top or side of the fishing rod, and the position becomes unstable because a rotational force constantly acts on the fishing rod in the axial direction. Therefore, rotation of the fishing rod due to this rotational force must be constantly prevented by the user. In this case, in the conventional trigger "f", a distance D (see Fig. 14(A)) between the user's finger placed on the trigger "f", and the tip of the thumb, which is placed in the reel "c", is not great, so the fishing rod needs to be gripped with enough force to firmly prevent the rotation of the fishing rod.

#### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0027] This invention's object is to solve the above-mentioned conventional problems. A further object of this invention is to provide a new fishing rod reel seat and a fishing rod which can be stably supported by substantially all the user's fingers which are placed in the rod, without bending an elbow and a wrist to an unnatural position, providing a strong gripping force during casting, and stably holding a posture of a fishing rod with a light gripping force during palming, with no need for sandwiching a trigger between the user's fingers.

[0028] In order to accomplish these objects, a fishing rod reel seat according to one exemplary embodiment of the invention is provided with an oblong pipe-shaped body through which a fishing pole passes, a reel foot placing surface formed on the top portion of the circumferential surface of the oblong pipe-shaped body, and

a trigger protruding from the lower top portion of the circumferential surface of the oblong pipe-shaped body in a fixed position and angle. The front surface of this trigger slopes downward and backward and has a length such that a user can place at least two fingers thereon.

5           **[0029]** Additionally, a fishing rod according to one exemplary embodiment of the invention may be provided with a fishing pole on which line guides are mounted, a reel seat attached to this oblong pipe-shaped body and having a reel foot placing surface, on which a top-mount style reel fixing foot is detachably fixed, a handle extending from a position at which this reel seat exists toward a rear side, and  
10       a trigger protruding from a position opposite to the reel foot placing surface in a state in which a position and an angle are fixed. The front surface of this trigger slopes downward and backward and has a length such that at least two fingers or more can be placed thereon.

**[0030]** As a result, an inclination relationship between a central axis of a  
15       fishing rod, or a central axis of the oblong pipe-shaped body, and the trigger substantially matches an inclination relationship between a user's arm direction and an aligning direction of points where a user's fingers other than the thumb intersect the user's palm when a wrist is slightly bent, without any force.

**[0031]** Therefore, during casting, if a user's thumb is placed on a spool of a  
20       reel substantially from a rear side, the user's index finger and middle finger are placed on the front surface of the trigger. The user's remaining fingers are wrapped around the body or the handle behind the trigger, and the user's arm is horizontally extended to the front substantially parallel to the fishing rod. Then, the direction of alignment of the user's two fingers placed on the trigger extends downward and backward, and  
25       the user's remaining fingers are placed naturally on the body and handle. Therefore, all the user's fingers naturally grip the body and handle without the user bending a wrist to an unnatural angle or twisting the wrist inward.

**[0032]** Therefore, when a fishing rod is gripped in this manner. When casting is performed in a posture in which a point is directly targeted. A sufficient  
30       gripping force can be sufficiently applied, and a strong swing can be performed, without generating extra force on a user's wrist or elbow. The two fingers placed on the trigger prevent slipping.